GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1389
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2006
IMPLEMENTATION OF DISABILITY ACT IN RAILWAYS
Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Persons with Disabilities(Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 is being implemtsnted by the Railways;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any responsibility has been fixed for non-imp! ementation of Disability Act in Railways;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to implement Disability Act in the Railways?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R.VELU)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d): Do not arise.

(e) : The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 provides for Reservation of posts for disabled, Non discrimination in transport, on the road, and in the built environment to be provided for by the Appropriate Governments/ Establishment within the limits of their economic capacity and development.Railways have been conducting special recruitment exercises for disabled persons.

To ensure non-discrimination in transport and built environment, approximately 1200 coaches with disabled friendly layout are in service. Further, facilities like (i) standard ramp for barrier free entry, (ii) earmarked parking lots for vehicles used by disabled persons, (iii) non-slippery walkway,(iv)adaptable toilets, (v) water taps suitable for needs of handicapped persons and (vi) `May I Help You` Booth for physically disabled persons have been provided for in all `A` category stations.. In long term action plan, Railways are considering provision of (i) facility of Inter-Platform transfer by providing ramps on Foot Over Bridge/Subway, (ii) Engraving on Edges of Platforms.